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Fred Christensen

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Secretary Spencer Abraham
The Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

August 28, 2001

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Dear Secretary Abraham:

SEP 16 2001

WE MUST BURN PLUTONIUM; NEVER BURY IT.

It follows that we must reprocess power reactor fuel pieces and recycle plutonium so that we can burn as much of it as we wish.

It is beyond understanding that we plan to bury hundreds of tons of plutonium, some tens of tons being the best low pu-240 bomb material, and plan to guard the burial sites for 100,000 years. Mr. Secretary, this is twenty times the recorded history of mankind! Good governments and their guard forces do not last anywhere near that long. Impossible on the face of it. Some propose to bury plutonium intermixed with highly radioactive contaminants. What the hand of man mixes and buries, the hand of man can disinter and purify, the more ruthless the disinterring terrorist, the easier the job. And after a hundred years or so the radioactive contaminants decay into harmlessness, making refining the 100,000-year plutonium almost trivial, certainly easier than mining gold from miles deep in South Africa.

Have we decided that we have no responsibility for our grandchildren, for our progeny over the next thousands of years? Do we really intend to sweep hundreds of thousands of bombs worth of plutonium under the carpet (under Yucca Mountain)? Are we to lead the rest of the world in this hedonistic undertaking? Perhaps we count on The Second Coming of Christ or on the death of mankind from the Eboli virus to save our children from the plutonium we so carelessly plan to bury. As absurd as it may sound, this is largely the path we now walk.

PLEASE MR. SECRETARY LET'S BURN (FISSION) PLUTONIUM; NEVER BURY IT.

With thanks for your attention, I remain,

Sincerely,

Fred Christensen

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3 Ivy Circle, Aiken, S.C. 29803 648-4998